terrorists in J & K showed that they are trained in creating chemical weapons and using poisons for mass destruction; and

(b) if so, the details of the discoveries made and the action-plan of Government to control this ill-conceived plan of Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No credible or corroborated intelligence inputs are available which indicate that Pakistan-trained terrorists operating in Jammu & Kashmir have weapons of mass destruction.

(b) The Government continues to monitor all developments and remains fully committed to take all necessary steps to effectively safeguard India's security and national interests.

Defence agreements

1808. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the agreements signed with various countries for the past two years;

(b) how would the same enhance our defence capabilities;

(c) the amount involved in these agreements; and

(d) the steps taken by the Ministry to monitor such agreements?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) Defence agreements with foreign countries are classified secret documents and details in this regard cannot be divulged in the national interest.

Golden Jubilee Year of BEL

1809. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees including officers working in Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore;

(b) whether the above factory has completed 50 year of its existence;

(c) the details of various programmes being organised during the golden jubilee year;

(d) whether the Management has taken steps to honour those who are responsible for its programme on the occasion of its golden jubilee; and

(e) whether the Government has conferred 'Navaratna' status on its golden jubilee year?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The total number of employees including officers working in Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore as on 30.6.2003 is 13,717.

(b) No, Sir. The Company will complete 50 years of its existence on 21st April, 2004.

(c) The Company is organizing various cultural and sports activities during the golden jubilee year. It has planned to support/help deserving orphanages, schools for the blind/handicapped and other organisations as considered fit during the year. Seminars and exhibitions have also been planned to publicise the technological advances made by the Company.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) No, Sir.

Landmine casualties in Rajasthan

1810. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the landmines have claimed 113 victims in Sriganganagar district of Rajasthan during the 15 months of the military mobilisation since December, 2001;

(b) whether there were even agricultural losses and villagers returning home were not sure that their fields and grazing pastures have been entirely demined; and